[22nd December 1956

Capital punishment

* 123 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of murder cases put up for trial in this State during the years—

(i) 1954–55 and

(ii) 1955–56;

(*b*) the number of cases in which capital punishment was awarded; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to abolish capital punishment?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:

(*a*) (i) 654

(ii) 648

(*b*) (i) 117

(ii) 129

(*c*) No, Sir.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Government tell us why they have come to the conclusion that capital punishment should continue? Is there any reference from the Central Government in this regard and is it the policy of the Government that capital punishment should be there?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: In the present circumstances, the Government feel that there should be a deterrent sentence like death sentence. It may be that in certain cases we commute the sentence. Still, I think this capital punishment is necessary now.

Levy of fines in aided secondary schools

* 124 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the levy of fines from children in aided secondary schools in the State is permitted by the Government; and

(*b*) if so, whether rules have been laid down as to—

(i) the conditions of levy;

(ii) the maximum amount that can be levied; and

(iii) the purposes for which such amount can be utilised?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (*a*) & (*b*) The levy of fines from the students in aided secondary schools is left to the discretion of the managements, or the Headmasters of schools.

They have to conform to the provisions contained in the Madras Educational Rules.